

# National Telecommunications and Information Administration

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) develops domestic and international telecommunications and information policy for the executive branch, ensures the efficient and effective management and use of the Federal radio spectrum, and performs state-of-the-art telecommunications research, engineering, and planning.

The **Salaries and Expenses** account includes funding to maintain ongoing programs for domestic and international policy development, Federal spectrum management, and related research.

## Digital Television Transition and Public Safety

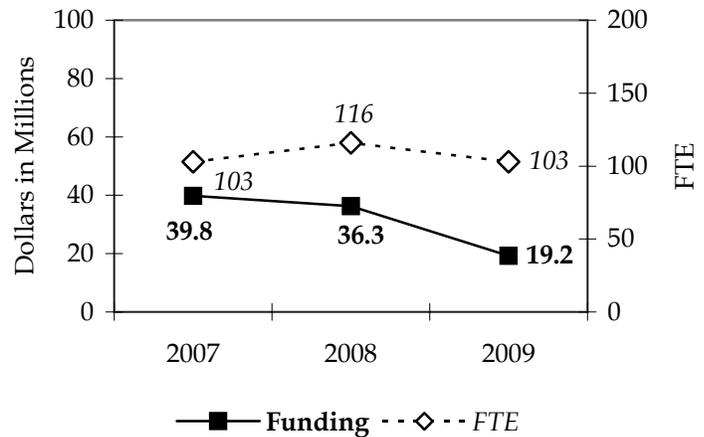
**Fund (DTTPSF) (mandatory program):** The Fund, created by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and modified by the Call Home Act, the SAFE Port Act of 2006, and the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008, receives offsetting receipts from the auction of electromagnetic spectrum recovered from discontinued analog television signals and provides funding for several one-time programs from these receipts. The Act specifies that the 60 megahertz of recovered spectrum not dedicated to public safety use will be auctioned by the Federal Communications Commission in 2008 and identifies the distribution of revenue. Receipts exceeding amounts specified for authorized programs will be returned to the general fund of the Treasury. The Act also provides borrowing authority to the Department of Commerce to commence specified programs prior to the availability of auction receipts. Amounts borrowed from the Treasury will be returned without interest upon the availability of auction revenue. Revenue will begin to transfer from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and become available beginning in late FY 2008. The fund will support the following programs:

- Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Coupon Program
- Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grants
- New York City 9/11 Digital Transition
- Assistance to Low-Power Television Stations
- National and Remote Alert Programs
- National Tsunami Warning Program
- Enhanced 9-1-1 Service Support
- Essential Air Service

The FY 2009 President's Budget provides \$591.7 million from the DTTPSF to support the above programs, most notably \$471.9 million for the Digital-to-Analog Television Converter Box Coupon Program. The estimated FY 2009 funding levels are a net decrease of \$25.1 million from FY 2008 for the Fund, due mainly to the drop in estimated obligations for the programs that get underway in FY 2008 (subject to available receipts in most cases) and partially offset by an increase in obligations for the Converter Box Coupon Program, the Low-Power Upgrade Program, and the National Tsunami Warning Program. Also, following enactment of the Call Home Act of 2006, over \$968 million was awarded in FY 2007 to qualified applicants in the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grants (PSIC) program. Outlays will continue over several fiscal years. The estimated FY 2008 obligations are a net decrease of \$439.6 million for these programs from FY 2007, due mainly to the estimated obligations in the PSIC program in that year.

NTIA will discontinue the **Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning, and Construction** (PTFPC) program in FY 2009, as funds are available for public broadcasting activities from other sources. Hereafter, previously appropriated funds that remain available will be used to administer prior year grants. The **Information Infrastructure Grants** program was terminated in FY 2005.

Discretionary Appropriation and FTE



## Summary of Appropriations

### Funding Levels

	2007 <u>Actual</u>	2008 <u>Estimate</u>	2009 <u>Estimate</u>	Increase (Decrease)
<b>Appropriation, Discretionary</b>				
Salaries and Expenses	\$18,062	\$17,466	\$19,218	\$1,752
Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction	21,729	18,800	0	(18,800)
Information Infrastructure Grants	0	0	0	0
<b>DISCRETIONARY APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>39,791</b>	<b>36,266</b>	<b>19,218</b>	<b>(17,048)</b>

### **Appropriation, Mandatory**

Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund				
Appropriation (special fund)		11,800,000	2,058,000	(9,742,000)
Appropriation (previously unavailable)			5,896,667	5,896,667
Portion precluded from obligation		(11,036,000)		11,036,000
Portion applied to repay debt		(598,000)		598,000
Transfer to Treasury			(7,363,000)	(7,363,000)
Appropriation, Mandatory		166,000	591,667	425,667
Authority to borrow	1,084,163	450,828	0	(450,828)
Budget Authority, Mandatory	1,084,163	616,828	591,667	(25,161)
<b>TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY</b>	<b>1,123,954</b>	<b>653,094</b>	<b>610,885</b>	<b>(42,209)</b>

### **FTE**

Salaries and Expenses - Direct	93	103	103	0
Salaries and Expenses - Reimbursable	139	155	155	0
Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction	9	13	0	(13)
Information Infrastructure Grants	1	0	0	0
Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund	12	16	22	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>(7)</b>

## Highlights of Budget Changes

### Appropriation: Salaries and Expenses

#### Summary of Requirements

	<u>Detailed</u>		<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>2008 Appropriation</b>			103	\$17,466
<b>Adjustments to Base</b>				
Restoration of base reductions from prior years				979
<b><u>Other Changes</u></b>				
2008 Pay raise		\$280		
2009 Pay raise		317		
Civil Service Retirement System(CSRS)		(18)		
Federal Employees' Retirement System(FERS)		28		
Change in compensable days		(48)		
Thrift Savings Plan		5		
Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) - OASDI		15		
Health insurance		7		
Employees' Compensation Plan		4		
Rent payments to GSA		31		
Postage		1		
Travel:				
Mileage		1		
Per diem		4		
Printing and Reproduction		1		
Other services: Working Capital Fund		116		
General Pricing Level Adjustment:				
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges		1		
Other services		20		
Supplies and materials		2		
Equipment		6		
Subtotal, other cost changes			0	773
<b>TOTAL, ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>1,752</b>
<b>2009 Base</b>			<b>103</b>	<b>19,218</b>
Program Changes			0	0
<b>2009 APPROPRIATION</b>			<b>103</b>	<b>19,218</b>

**Comparison by Activity**

	2008 Currently Avail.		2009 Base		2009 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>								
Domestic & International Policies	26	\$5,682	26	\$4,916	26	\$4,916	0	\$0
Spectrum Management	32	7,310	32	7,419	32	7,419	0	0
Telecommunication Sciences Res.	45	6,382	45	6,883	45	6,883	0	0
<b>TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>19,374</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>19,218</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>19,218</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS	155	57,857	155	37,776	155	37,776	0	0
<b>TOTAL OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>77,231</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>56,994</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>56,994</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FINANCING</b>								
Unobligated balance, start of year (Direct)		(1,908)						
Unobligated balance, start of year (Reimbursable)		(23,003)						
Offsetting collections from:								
Federal funds	(152)	(34,354)			(152)	(37,276)		
Non-Federal sources	(3)	(500)			(3)	(500)		
Subtotal, financing	(155)	(59,765)			(155)	(37,776)		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY/ APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>17,466</b>			<b>103</b>	<b>19,218</b>		

**Appropriation: Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction****Summary of Requirements**

	<u>Detailed</u>		<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>2008 Appropriation</b>			13	\$18,800
<b>Adjustments to Base</b>			0	0
<b>2009 Base</b>			13	18,800
Program Changes			(13)	(18,800)
<b>2009 APPROPRIATION</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Comparison by Activity**

	2008 Currently Avail.		2009 Base		2009 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>								
Grants	0	\$19,456	0	\$16,800	0	\$0	0	(\$16,800)
Program Management	13	2,647	13	2,000	0	0	(13)	(2,000)
<b>TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22,103</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(13)</b>	<b>(18,800)</b>
<b>FINANCING</b>								
Unobligated balance, start of year		(3,303)				0		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY/ APPROPRIATION</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18,800</b>			<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		

PTFPC grant awards are being terminated in FY 2009. Recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated to this account will remain available for the administration of prior year grants. Since 2000, almost 70 percent of PTFPC awards have supported public television stations' conversion to digital broadcasting. Almost all public broadcasters have completed the transition to digital broadcasting to comply with the rules of the Federal Communications Commission. Funding for remaining digital conversion and other activities is available from other sources.

**Appropriation: Information Infrastructure Grants**

*Summary of Requirements*

	<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>2008 Appropriation</b>	0	\$0
<b>Adjustments to Base</b>	0	0
<b>2009 Base</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Program Changes	0	0
<b>2009 APPROPRIATION</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

*Comparison by Activity*

	2008 Currently Avail.		2009 Base		2009 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>								
Technology Opportunity Program								
Grants	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Program Management	0	1,820	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,820</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>FINANCING</b>								
Unobligated balance, start of year		(1,820)				0		
<b>TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY/ APPROPRIATION</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		

**Appropriation: Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund**

*Summary of Requirements*

	<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>2008 Mandatory Appropriation</b>	<u>16</u>	<u>\$166,000</u>
<b>Authority to borrow</b>	0	450,828
<b>2009 Base</b>	16	616,828
Program Changes	6	(25,161)
<b>2009 Mandatory Budget Authority</b>	<u>22</u>	<u>591,667</u>

The Title III of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 provided the Department the authority to borrow from the Treasury in advance of the availability of radio spectrum auction receipts that finance several programs created in the Act. Receipts will start to become available in FY 2008.

**Comparison by Activity**

	2008 Currently Avail.		2009 Base		2009 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<b>DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>								
Digital to Analog Converter Box Program	9	\$429,424	9	\$427,077	7	\$471,870	(2)	\$44,793
Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grants	3	12,837	3	11,530	3	6,536	0	(4,994)
NYC 9/11 Digital Transition Program	0	21,342	0	21,169	0	290	0	(20,879)
Low Power TV & Translator Conversion Program	2	7,975	2	7,911	2	687	0	(7,224)
Low Power TV & Translator Upgrade Program	1	1,640	1	1,640	5	59,541	4	57,901
National Tsunami Warning Program	0	0	0	0	0	50,000	0	50,000
National and Remote Alert Programs	1	100,112	1	90,112	4	2,186	3	(87,926)
Enhanced 9-1-1 Service Support	0	42,389	0	42,389	1	557	1	(41,832)
Essential Air Service Program	0	15,000	0	15,000	0	0	0	(15,000)
<b>TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>630,719</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>616,828</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>591,667</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>(25,161)</b>
<b>FINANCING</b>								
Unobligated balance, start of year		(13,891)				0		
Unobligated balance, end of year		0				0		
<b>TOTAL MANDATORY BUDGET AUTHORITY (BORROWING AUTHORITY)</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>616,828</b>			<b>22</b>	<b>591,667</b>		

**Highlights of Program Changes**

	Base		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Program	9	427,077	-2	+\$44,793

To assist consumers during the transition from analog to digital television, coupons will be provided upon request, a maximum of two per qualifying household, to be used to offset the cost of digital-to-analog television converter boxes. Coupons may be requested between January 1, 2008, and March 31, 2009, and will expire three months after issuance. Coupon obligations are expected to continue and be somewhat higher in FY 2009.

Public Safety Interoperable Communications	3	11,530	0	-\$4,994
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Grants have been provided in consultation with the Department of Homeland Security to public safety agencies to assist efforts to make their communications systems interoperable, i.e., capable of sharing voice and data signals on the radio spectrum. The program awarded the grants in September 2007, in accordance with the Call Home Act of 2006, and will administer the grants to completion during the years FY 2008 – FY 2010.

New York City 9/11 Digital Transition	0	21,169	0	-\$20,879
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Federal assistance has been provided to the Metropolitan Television Alliance of New York City for the design and deployment of a temporary digital television broadcast system until a permanent facility atop the planned Freedom Tower is constructed. The grant award is scheduled to be completed in FY 2008, with grant administration continuing in FY 2009.

	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Base Amount</u>	<u>Increase / Decrease</u>	
			<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Assistance to Low Power Television Stations	3	9,551	+4	+\$50,677

Eligible low-power stations may receive compensation for a digital-to-analog conversion device to convert the incoming digital signal of a full-power television station to analog for transmission on the low-power station's analog channel. Applications will be accepted and awarded through February 17, 2009. Subsequent to the completion of the digital-to-analog conversion program, eligible low-power stations may receive reimbursement to upgrade their television signals from analog to digital format. Grants for upgrades will be awarded in FY 2009.

National Tsunami Warning Program	0	0	0	+\$50,000
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A tsunami warning system will be implemented by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) using a variety of communications technologies capable of alerting the public to emergency situations, including tsunamis and coastal vulnerability.

National and Remote Alert Programs	1	90,112	+3	-\$87,926
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A national alert system will be implemented using a variety of communications technologies capable of alerting the public to emergency situations. Title VI of the SAFE Port Act of 2006 specified the use of funds in this program, and requires: that public and educational broadcasters modify their towers to enable the distribution of targeted alerts by commercial mobile services providers; the establishment of a research program to support the development of technologies to increase the number of commercial mobile service devices that receive emergency alerts; and the establishment of a grant program for outdoor alerting technologies in remote communities to enable receipt of emergency alerts. These programs are to be administered in partnership with specified agencies, such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology and NOAA of the Department of Commerce, as well as the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Homeland Security. Agreements with partner agencies and grant awards are expected to occur in FY 2008.

Enhanced 9-1-1 Service Support	0	42,389	+1	-\$41,832
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Funds will be used to implement the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004, which created a joint effort of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to assist State and local governments in providing caller location identification capabilities for emergency 911 services, and established a matching grant program for that purpose. An agreement with DOT will be completed in FY 2008.

Essential Air Service Program	0	15,000	0	-\$15,000
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Funds will be provided to DOT for the Essential Air Service program.

## NTIA Performance Measures

NTIA supports the Department's strategic goal to "Promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness." NTIA has revised its performance outcomes and measures to be more outcome-oriented. The following table shows the measures that NTIA uses to gauge its performance. A more detailed description of these outcomes and measures is in the NTIA section of the Department of Commerce budget.

### Performance Outcomes and Measures

(Dollars reflect obligations in Millions)

	2007 Actual	2008 Estimate / Target	2009 Estimate / Target
<b>Outcome 1: Ensure that the allocation of radio spectrum provides the greatest benefit to all people</b>	<b>\$38.9</b>	<b>\$49.1</b>	<b>\$42.8</b>
Frequency assignment processing time	9	<9 Business Days	<9 Business Days
Certification request processing time	3 months <sup>2</sup>	<2 months	<2 months
Space system coordination request processing time	90% in <18 days <sup>2</sup>	90% in <14 days	90% in <14 days
Spectrum plans and policies processing time	Comments in 11 days	Comments in ≤15 days	Comments in ≤15 days
Spectrum management improvements	23 of 29 milestones	22 milestones	14 milestones
<b>Outcome 2: Promote the availability and support new sources of advanced telecommunications<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>\$1,107.1</b>	<b>\$682.8</b>	<b>\$605.9</b>
Support new telecom and info technology by advocating Administration views in FCC docket filings and Congressional proceedings	8 docket and proceedings	5 docket and proceedings	5 docket and proceedings
Number of Web site views for research publications	105K/Mo	75K/Mo	80K/Mo
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,146.1</b>	<b>\$731.9</b>	<b>\$648.7</b>

1. Funding for the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund program (DTTPSF) is reflected under Outcome 2.
2. Actual performance figures were updated in December 2007 after the publication of the FY 2007 DOC Performance and Accountability Report.